

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
HA-05 IO-13 /082 W
-----093105 121420Z /43

R 111400Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8825
INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT PGOV ZA
SUBJ: DATES ANNOUNCED FOR PARTY GENERAL CONFERENCE

REF: A-26 LUSAKA

1. PARTY SECRETARY-GENERAL MAINZA CHONA HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE EIGHTH GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE PARTY (UNIP) WILL TAKE PLACE AT MULUNGUSHI ROCK NEAR KABWE FROM SEPTEMBER 9 - 12. THE GENERAL CONFERENCE (GC), A PRECURSOR TO NATION-WIDE ELECTIONS FOR PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, IS EXPECTED TO ENDORSE THE NATIONAL COUNCIL'S JUNE DECISION TO NOMINATE PRESIDENT KAUNDA AS SOLE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE. THE SEVERAL THOUSAND DELEGATES TO THE CG WILL ALSO SELECT MEMBERS OF THE PARTY'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE TO SERVE FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

2. COMMENT: WITH THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE PARTY GENERAL CONFERENCE, POLITICKING IN ZAMBIA FOR THE UPCOMING GENERAL ELECTIONS WILL BEGIN IN EARNEST. WHILE IT IS STILL TECHNICALLY POSSIBLE FOR ANOTHER CANDIDATE TO BE PRESENTED TO THE GC, CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS MAKE IT HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT THERE WILL BE ANY
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FORMAL OPPOSITION TO KAUNDA (REFAIR). THERE MAY BE SOME CHANGES IN THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE. THE GENERAL CONFERENCE ALSO HAS THE AUTHORITY TO REVIEW OR CHANGE ANY POLICY OF THE PARTY WITH THE EXCEPTION OF AMENDING THE PARTY CONSTITUTION. WHILE WE WOULD GUESS THAT THERE WILL BE SIGNIFICANT IN-HOUSE DEBATE ON ECONOMIC AND FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES, IT WOULD BE SURPRISING TO SEE THE GC RECOMMEND OR MANDATE ANY BASIC CHANGE

IN THOSE POLICIES.
CLINGERMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: NOMINATION, PARTY MEETINGS, PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS
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Draft Date: 11 jul 1978
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Litigation History:
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